

the work of the San Francisco Heart Committee in the northern part of the State.

Dr. W. P. Shepard of San Francisco heads a committee of physicians, attorneys, and industrial leaders, who have addressed themselves to the problem of heart disease in industry. The answer to specific questions is being sought by four well-organized subcommittees.

Under the leadership of Dr. Wilton L. Halverson of Pasadena, detailed studies have been outlined to obtain all possible specific knowledge about rheumatic fever in California.

The Executive Committee of the Association has been working in conjunction with the California Medical Association's standing Committee on Postgraduate Activities for many months. Within a short time a five-year course of instruction in all branches of heart and circulatory diseases will be offered to all doctors of the State.

Continuing the work of past years, a two-day symposium on heart disease was held in San Francisco, November 17 and 18; and another in Los Angeles, December 2 and 3. Each year these meetings add notable contributions to our knowledge of heart and circulatory diseases.

The California Heart Association has made a promising beginning. Many very prominent laymen in the State have expressed their conviction that our objectives are worthy of support and they are demonstrating their support by subscribing to our organization. But to be successful we must have 100 per cent support of the medical profession.

Membership in the Association entitles one to receive the monthly publication, *Modern Concepts of Heart Disease*, valuable reports and data gathered by all committees, and to receive the benefits of all our proceedings. Dues are very nominal, being only \$2 a year. Correspondence is invited.

45 Second Street.

Very sincerely yours,

JOHN C. RUDDOCK,

Concerning rabies in City and County of San Francisco.

(COPY)

San Francisco,

December 20, 1937.

Subject: Possibility of Rabies in San Francisco in Animals and in Humans.

To the Editor:—It will be of interest to note that the last case of human rabies reported in San Francisco occurred in 1913, following an intensive outbreak in dogs in 1912. This particular occurrence is of interest to the writer personally, since the outbreak of rabies in California in 1912 brought him originally to California in the same year to establish a Pasteur Institute at the University of California.

There were reported in San Francisco in 1912, two hundred and eighty-two animals suffering from rabies, mainly dogs. The last reported rabies in dogs in San Francisco occurred in 1929. Within the last two weeks two animals (dogs) suffering from rabies have been reported from Daly City, practically on the border line of the City and County of San Francisco.

It will be of further interest to note that since 1920 there have been reported in the State of California 13,128 animals with rabies and fifty-two deaths in human beings from the same disease. The greatest number ever reported in any single year has occurred in the past year, 1937, namely, 2,062 cases of rabies in animals with two cases in human beings. Of course, it is definitely understood that rabies in human beings or animals is 100 per cent fatal, there being no known cure or treatment when the disease becomes manifest.

It is because of the close proximity of recent cases in Daly City that the above facts have been ascertained and that definite warning is given accordingly. This warning is of particular significance to the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals inasmuch as they have control of stray animals, especially dogs and cats which are the reservoir of the disease. The area in the City and County of San Francisco nearest Daly City is our present danger spot, and we are requesting the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals to concentrate on the capture of stray dogs in this vicinity. If any dog is known to have been

bitten by another animal suffering from rabies it is best to destroy it, inasmuch as the incubation period may extend from two weeks to six months and perhaps longer. Moreover, the present immunization of dogs that have been exposed to the disease has not always proved a practical procedure. The immediate treatment of dog bite is the immediate use of fuming nitric acid cauterization of the bitten area, and the report of the occurrence to the Department of Public Health.

Office of Director of Public Health,
City and County of San Francisco.

Sincerely,

J. C. GEIGER, M.D.,
Director.

Concerning California Postgraduate Supplement.

South Bend, Indiana,
December 6, 1937.

Dear Doctor Warnshuis:

Thank you very much for the supplement to CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE, giving the five-year study program for graduates in medicine.

I am tremendously interested in the subject of "Postgraduate Education." I believe that the maintenance of high standards of medical service is of the very greatest importance to the future of medicine as against various schemes for socialization.

Please convey my congratulations to Chairman Ruddock and his Committee for a very good piece of work.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) R. L. SENSENICH, M.D.*

Concerning botulism outbreak in Tucumcari, New Mexico.

OFFICE OF
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH
CITY AND COUNTY OF
SAN FRANCISCO

November 19, 1937.

To the Editor:—Relative to the news report of an outbreak of botulism in New Mexico, I am sending you copy of a telegram sent this day to the Health Officer, Tenth District, Portales, New Mexico.

Sincerely,

J. C. GEIGER, M.D.,
Director.

(COPY)

WESTERN UNION

November 19, 1937.

Dr. L. A. Dewey
Health Officer, Tenth District
Portales, New Mexico

Re botulism outbreak Tucumcari [an] apparent favorable result. Similar outbreak [in] San Francisco [was] experienced after intravenous injection [of] one thousand cc. 10 per cent glucose solution, administered daily, according to indications. Dosage given for adults. Children according to weight.

J. C. GEIGER, M.D.,
Director, Public Health.

Concerning leaflets by the Nursing Information Bureau.

New York, November 1, 1937.

Dear Editor:

Physicians more frequently, probably, than any other group of individuals, are consulted by young people who want to be nurses. Parents, too, who are concerned for their children's welfare, turn to their doctors for answers to such important questions as, "Is there a future in nursing for my child?" "Will she make a good nurse?" "What is the best nursing school for her to attend?"

The Nursing Information Bureau of the American Nurses' Association now has available two vocational pam-

* Doctor Sensenich is a member of the Board of Trustees of the American Medical Association.